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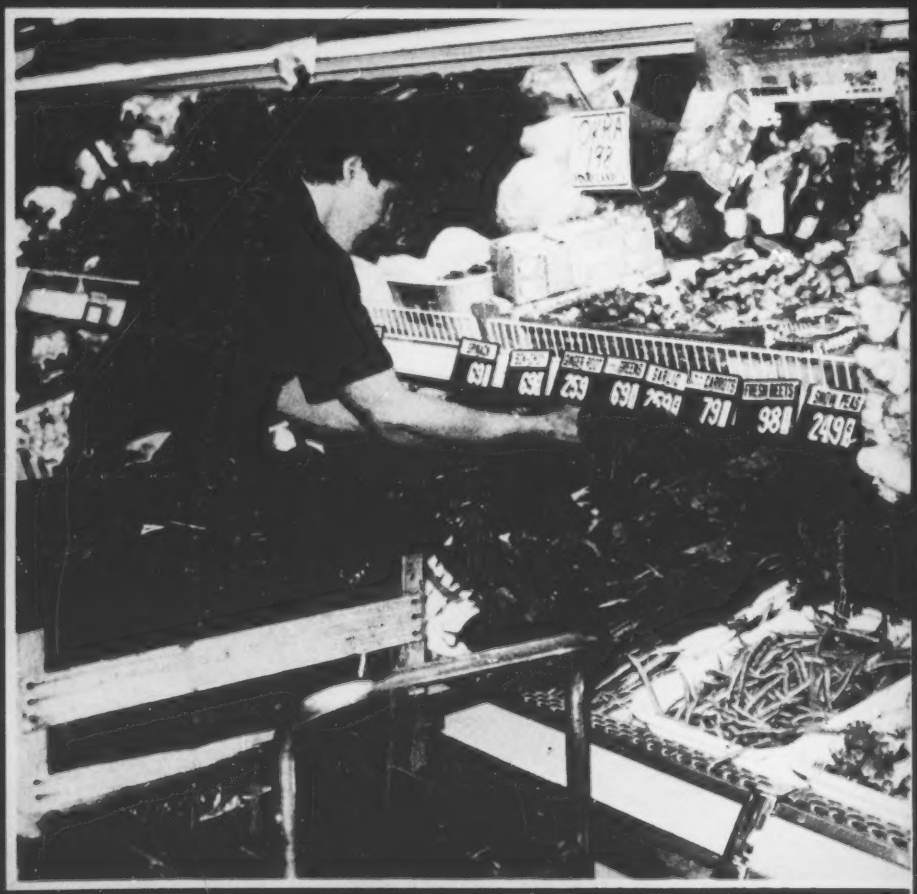
ALASKA ECONOMIC TRENDS

Alaska Department of Labor Bill Sheffield, Governor, State of Alaska



1 The Cost of Doing Business and the Cost of Living in Alaska

ALASKA ECONOMIC TRENDS

Bill Sheffield, *Governor, State of Alaska*

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The following notes pertain to Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment Tables:

Government includes teachers in primary and secondary schools, and personnel employed by the University of Alaska.

Benchmark Date March 1984.

P/ Denotes preliminary estimates.

R/ Denotes revised estimates.

THE COST OF DOING BUSINESS AND THE COST OF LIVING IN ALASKA

By Kathleen Thomas and John Boucher

It is often said that the cost of doing business in Alaska far exceeds that of other parts of the country. To examine this possibility various business and living costs are evaluated for five metropolitan areas, three in Alaska and two in the contiguous United States. The three areas in Alaska are Fairbanks, Anchorage, and Juneau and the two in the contiguous United States are Seattle and Washington, D.C. The costs examined include both the direct costs of business and the cost of maintaining employees at the work site. In this article the costs of doing business examined are wage rates, office space rental rates, auto rental rates, hotel and motel room rates, shipping rates (air and barge), air fares, utility rates, insurance rates, heavy equipment rental rates, and the cost of office equipment. The cost of living comparisons include costs of food at home, housing costs (buying and renting), personal income, family budget comparisons, shipping of personal effects, residential utility rates, and insurance rates.

The data are obtained from a multitude of sources. Some data have been previously published while other data are from an in-house survey conducted for this article. Sometimes a mix of methods were used. For example, if the data for Alaska have been published, they are used but a telephone survey may have been necessary to gather unpublished data in Seattle and Washington, D.C. When the data are from a published source the source will be noted on the table representing the data.

For the purposes of the narrative the data will be explained and summarized. The detailed data are available in the accompanying tables. The data are useful for comparison purposes but extraneous variables could result in variations in costs to individual businesses not obvious in the data presented here. A difference in locale, method of operation, and size of operations could affect the use of the data. Some of the variables that should be considered when reviewing the data are listed below.

The first variable is that smaller, more isolated towns may not have the variation in prices available in larger cities. The data for which a range of prices is given is necessarily not an all inclusive range. For example, the range of hotel and motel room rates in Juneau may include almost all rates for the whole town. At the same time the range of rates in Seattle may cover only the medium priced hotels and motels. Smaller motels in the Seattle area may offer lower rates and larger, luxury hotels may have higher rates. With a highly centralized metropolitan area like Washington, D.C., hotel room rates become cheaper the farther away they are from the central business district. The main point is that all of these rates are median ranges

for comparison purposes only and subject to individual variations.

Secondly, a variation could exist due to the quantity of a good purchased by a firm. Discounts are generally given for the purchase of larger quantities of goods whether it is typewriters or heating fuel. This factor is affected by both firm size and community size. The larger the community, the greater the quantity ordered by the retailer, the larger the discount given to the retailer by the wholesaler, leading to a lower price for an individual machine. The same reasoning would be true for a larger firm that buys directly from the wholesaler, regardless of the size of the community. The larger the quantity bought by the individual firm the lower the price of the individual machine.

Another variable to be considered is the difference in the way communities operate. Even when relative prices are comparable, one community may emphasize the use of electricity for heating while another may emphasize the use of fuel oil. Some communities may assist the development of resources or firms through financing or grants while others rely on the firm to be self sufficient.

Smaller communities in Alaska, especially those located some distance from a population center have their own unique problems and factors that could not be considered in this survey. Items that have to be brought into these areas such as food, fuel oil and other supplies or local purchases may be exorbitantly expensive. However, one thing to be considered in some of these areas is the contribution a subsistance lifestyle can make in keeping living costs lower.

ALASKA
HOURS AND EARNINGS
FOR
SELECTED INDUSTRIES 1/ 2/

	Average Hourly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Weekly Earnings		
	p/ 1/85	r/ 12/84	1/84	p/ 1/85	r/ 12/84	1/84	p/ 1/85	r/ 12/84	1/84
Mining	$23.75	$23.44	$21.35	52.2	54.1	49.9	$1239.75	$1268.10	$1065.36
Contract Construction	23.97	24.14	23.78	41.1	38.9	40.6	985.17	939.05	965.47
Manufacturing	15.08	15.03	15.07	26.0	29.9	33.6	392.08	449.40	506.35
Food & Kindred Products	10.03	9.71	8.9[illegible]	13.8	20.1	23.3	138.41	195.17	208.30
Lumber & Paper Products	17.30	17.54	18.02	31.3	34.5	36.8	541.49	605.13	663.14
Trans. Comm. & Utilities	15.45	15.68	15.34	33.9	34.7	39.1	523.76	544.10	599.79
Trade	10.79	10.57	10.45	32.9	34.8	34.1	354.99	367.84	356.35
Wholesale	13.20	12.31	12.38	35.7	39.2	37.3	471.24	482.55	461.77
Retail	9.80	9.86	9.62	31.9	33.3	32.9	312.62	328.34	316.50
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	—	—	—	—	—	—	416.04	441.17	366.71

1/ Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

2/ Excludes eating and drinking establishments

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS SERIES: Averages are based on data for full and part time production workers (manufacturing) and nonsupervisory workers (nonmanufacturing) and are for gross earnings and hours paid, including overtime pay and hours.

ALASKA
HOURS AND EARNINGS
FOR
SELECTED INDUSTRIES 1/ 2/

	Average Hourly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Weekly Earnings		
	p/ 12/84	r/ 11/84	12/83	p/ 12/84	r/ 11/84	12/83	p/ 12/84	r/ 11/84	12/83
Mining	$23.44	$24.15	$22.88	54.1	50.9	46.0	$1268.10	$1229.24	$1052.48
Contract Construction	24.14	24.42	24.20	38.9	37.5	39.0	939.05	915.75	943.80
Manufacturing	15.03	14.58	14.91	29.9	33.4	32.9	449.40	486.97	490.54
Food & Kindred Products	9.71	9.09	8.60	20.1	28.9	21.6	195.17	262.70	185.76
Lumber & Paper Products	17.54	18.52	18.49	34.5	30.2	40.1	605.13	559.30	741.45
Trans. Comm. & Utilities	15.68	15.35	15.56	34.7	36.8	38.2	544.10	564.88	594.39
Trade	10.57	10.78	9.99	34.8	34.4	35.4	367.84	370.83	353.65
Wholesale	12.31	12.91	12.19	39.2	39.1	37.4	482.55	504.78	455.91
Retail	9.86	9.90	9.20	33.3	32.8	34.7	328.34	324.72	319.24
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	—	—	—	—	—	—	441.17	417.55	357.05

1 Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

2 Excludes eating and drinking establishments

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS SERIES: Averages are based on data for full and part time production workers (manufacturing) and nonsupervisory workers (nonmanufacturing) and are for gross earnings and hours paid, including overtime pay and hours.

Annual Average Hourly Earnings for Major Industries
1972-1984

	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
Mining	7.50	7.31	8.69	12.28	13.41	15.09	15.05	17.64	18.49	20.10	21.94	23.40	23.33
Contract Construction	10.48	11.04	12.56	15.32	17.76	19.16	18.23	18.73	20.65	21.28	23.19	23.95	24.52
Manufacturing	5.92	5.97	7.10	8.09	7.82	9.12	8.86	9.14	10.22	11.42	11.74	12.33	12.25
Food & Kindred Products	4.55	4.44	5.32	5.45	5.40	6.17	6.25	6.52	7.60	8.45	8.39	8.38	8.30
Lumber & Paper Products	6.37	7.00	7.85	8.70	9.52	10.66	11.52	12.70	13.74	14.45	15.44	17.15	16.78
Trans. Comm. & Utilities 1/	—	—	—	—	—	—	11.42	12.52	12.83	14.14	14.98	15.79	15.62
Trade	4.96	5.02	5.85	7.03	7.18	7.70	7.68	8.15	8.86	9.49	9.70	10.02	10.55
Wholesale	6.15	6.21	6.99	8.44	8.64	8.69	8.78	9.62	10.53	11.61	11.46	11.72	12.64
Retail	4.53	4.68	5.46	6.43	6.54	7.23	7.26	7.58	8.21	8.64	8.94	9.32	9.67

1 Average hourly earnings and average weekly hours for transportation, communication, and utilities were not initiated until 1978.

1984 Benchmark

One other point to consider is that data from an area may not be available at the same level of detail as is available in another area. Cost of food at home, for example, was available for the individual Alaskan communities, but the data for Seattle and Washington, D.C. are for the Western and Southern Regions of the U.S. as published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. While no universal cost of living comparison is available for every city in Alaska and the U.S., many communities in both Alaska and the U.S. have a McDonald's restaurant. As such we have devised the "Big Mac Meal Index" for the purpose of comparing Alaskan communities to each other as well as to the locale closest to you (See Table VII).

The data presented below are not designed to provide a comprehensive cost of living or cost of doing business in Alaska, but they are useful in comparing these locales to a particular situation and therefore gather a reasonable idea of what costs would be incurred by locating in Alaska. This data combined with data from other sources can give the business person or individual a more comprehensive view of the Alaska economy. For the business person, the Alaska Department of Commerce and Economic Development's publication *Establishing A Business in Alaska* is highly recommended as a source of information ranging from taxation to labor law and financial assistance. The Alaska Department of Labor's *Alaska Planning Information* is a very useful source for labor market information such as income data and employment and unemployment by area. Also available are more detailed information and some of the source data for this article such as Cost of Food at home. For more detailed information or for information regarding the source of information in this article contact the Alaska Department of Labor, Research and Analysis Section.

(Tables begin on following page)

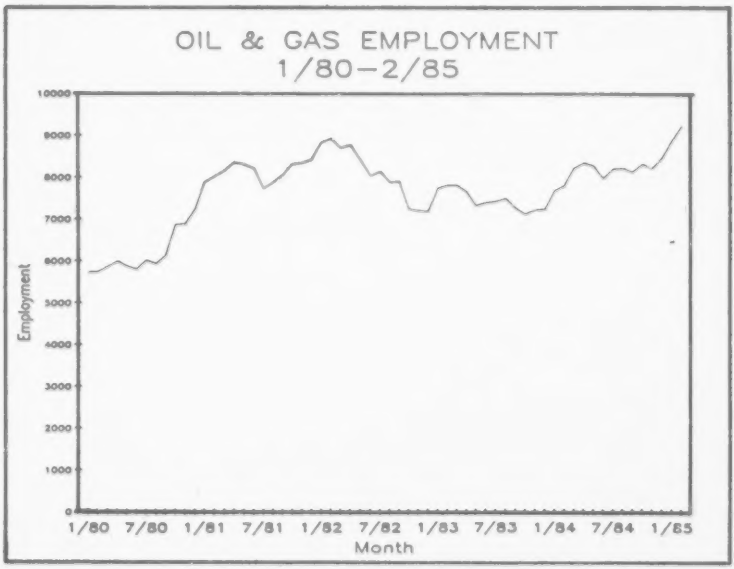
ALASKA

By Ed Eboch

Oil and Gas Employment

Oil and gas employment continues to be above forecast values as we begin the 1985 year. This rise in employment appears to conflict with reports of reduced activities and layoffs in the industry. Annual average oil and gas employment of 8,146 for 1984 is well above 1983's annual average of 7,444. The increase over the year ago numbers has grown larger as the year has progressed. The estimates for the first two months of 1985 exceed the previous all time high for oil and gas employment which occurred in February of 1982.

Interestingly, the increase in oil and gas employment is not supported by estimates of increased construction employment in the Northern Region of the state. The growth appears to be broad based with growth in both oil companies and oil field services organizations. Whether this increased level of employment will be sustained depends to some extent on movement of oil prices. Increased activities scheduled for the next two years are too far along to be affected by price changes but new exploration and development projects beyond that period will no doubt depend on the world oil prices.



NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
BY PLACE OF WORK
ALASKA

			CHANGES FROM:		
	P/ 2/85	R/ 1/85	2/84	1/85	2/84
Nonag. Wage & Salary	218800	215500	206900	3300	11900
Mining	9700	9400	8200	300	1500
Construction	15000	14200	16200	800	-1200
Manufacturing	8000	6900	7000	1100	1000
Food & Kindred Prod.	3300	2400	2400	900	900
Lumber & Paper Prod.	1800	1600	1800	200	0
All Other Mfg.	2900	2900	2800	0	100
Trans. Comm. & Utilities	17800	18100	17600	-300	200
Trucking & Whseing.	2000	2200	1900	-200	100
Water Transportation	1000	1000	1000	0	0
Air Transportation	5700	5800	5700	-100	0
Other Trans. Comm. & Utilities	9100	9100	9000	0	100
Trade	43400	44000	40500	-600	2900
Wholesale	8400	8400	8100	0	300
Retail	35000	35600	32400	-600	2600
Gen. Mer. & Apparel	5000	5200	4500	-200	500
Food Stores	5700	5800	5200	-100	500
Eating & Drinking Places	12700	12700	11300	0	1400
Other Retail Trade	11600	11900	11400	-300	200
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	12600	12500	11600	100	1000
Services & Misc.	43200	43100	41000	100	2200
Government	69100	67300	64800	1800	4300
Federal	18100	18000	17500	100	600
State	20100	19000	19100	1100	1000
Local	30900	30300	28200	600	2700

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Government includes teachers in primary and secondary schools, and personnel employed by the University of Alaska.

Benchmark Date March 1984.

P/ Denotes premilinary estimates.

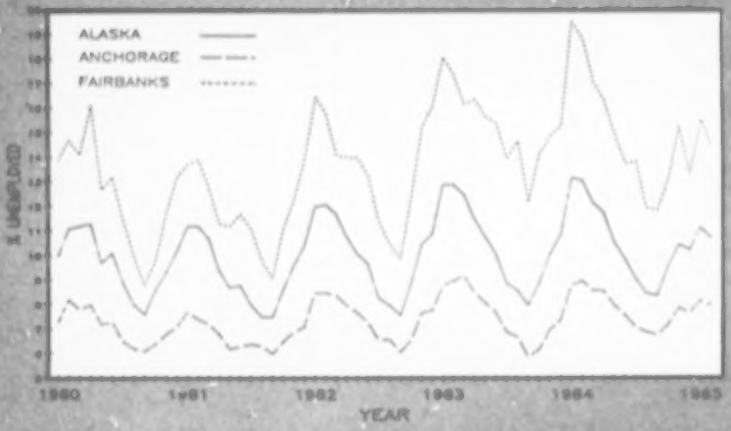
R/ Denotes revised estimates.

Employment and Unemployment

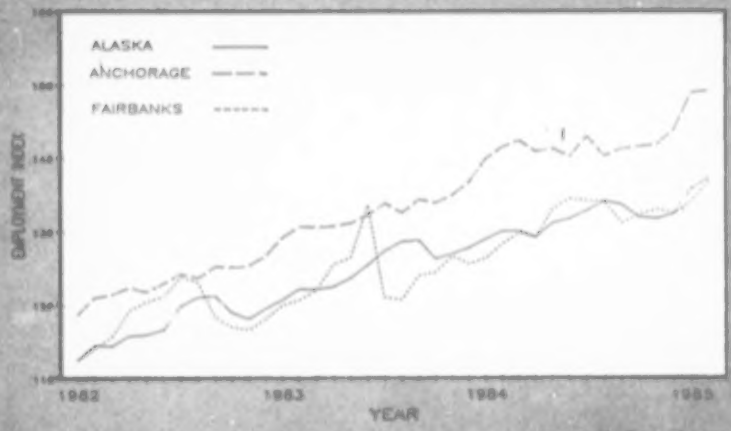
Year to year increases in statewide employment continue strong despite indication of overbuilding in construction and a slowdown in growth of state employment. Although construction employment is down from the previous year this decrease has been more than offset by sizable year to year gains in mining, food and kindred products and government employment.

The February unemployment rate has declined from the 1985 January rate and is considerably below the year ago rate. For the first time in several years the growth in jobs has begun to exceed the growth in the labor force, an indiction that in-migration may be slowing.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
1980 To Present



Composite Nonag. Employment Indexes
Seasonally Adjusted
1982 To Present



Source: Alaska Dept. of Labor

ANCHORAGE/MATSU

By Greg Huff

Anchorage Labor Turnover

The rate at which Anchorage workers move into and out of employment with respect to individual firms is high. From 1983 to 1984 labor turnover as measured by changes in employees joining or leaving a firm from one quarter to the following quarter, averaged 43% hires and 42% terminations. This means that for every 100 employees held by individual firms from one period to the next, 43 employees were hired and 42 employees were terminated or separated. The turnover rates in this article measure employee turnover from one quarter to the next quarter for the same firm and are presented in Table I by major industry group. (See footnote at end of table.)

A held employee is an employee who received pay during two consecutive quarters. A hired individual is one who did not receive wages any time during the previous quarter, but did receive pay the following quarter. Hired employees are all additions to a firm's payroll. They may be either permanent or temporary, new or rehired, and may be hired to replace a discharged, retired or deceased employee. A terminated or separated employee is paid during a quarter and the following quarter receives no pay because the employee quits, is laid off, discharged, retired or died. The data cannot differentiate between the causes of turnover or whether the separations are initiated by the employer or employee, but can only reveal crude labor turnover rates.

The major factor contributing to changes in labor turnover rates is industry expansion and contraction caused by cyclical business patterns or seasonal fluctuations. In prosperous times quit rates and new hires are high because of job availability, while in periods of economic slowdown high layoffs are coupled with low quit rates and low hire ratios. Turnover rates are also influenced by the age, length of service, occupation, and pay of the worker. Studies show that most turnovers occur during the beginning stages of an employee's job life. The longer an employee is with a firm, the more likely he will stay with the firm. "White collar" occupations generally have lower turnover rates than clerical or "blue collar" jobs. Also the higher the pay the greater the likelihood an employee will stay with a firm.

The industry in Anchorage with the highest turnover rate is construction followed by manufacturing and retail trade. The construction industry on an annual basis averaged a hire rate of 94% and a separation rate of 90%. The nature of the construction industry lends itself to these high rates. Firms are constantly adjusting their employment levels to the amount of building activity. Seasonal fluctuations cause extreme changes in the hire

and termination rates. During the spring and summer hire rates outpace separation rates by 40 percentage points and by the 3rd to 4th quarters, terminations outpace hires by 2 to 1.

Manufacturing turnover also exhibits radical seasonal swings. During the peak fishing season, processing plants hire two times more employees than are separated. During the summer season, the hire rate for the seafood processing industry exceeds 180% while the separation rate is 76%. During the off season their ratios change to 35% hire and to 560% termination rates. The printing and publishing sector has the lowest turnover rate in the manufacturing industry. The hire rate ranges from 30% to 47% and termination rates from 38% to 43% during the course of the year.

The highest turnover rates within the retail trade industry exist in the eating and drinking establishments where there is a high concentration of young workers and entry level jobs. These variables generate higher turnover rates for firms. The annual turnover rates for eating and drinking establishments from 1983 and 1984 were 84% and 82% for hires and terminations, respectively. The lowest turnover in retail trade was in the large department stores sector where there is a higher concentration of permanent professionals and sales personnel. Their annual hire rate averaged 30% and the separation rate, averaged 28%. The most notable seasonal trend in retail trade is the increase in terminations after the Christmas and New Year holiday season.

The services industry group turnover rate has an annual average equal to the overall industry turnover rate and the services industry demonstrated only moderate seasonal fluctuations. The lowest turnover rates are in the health, legal and private educational service areas and the highest rates are in automotive repair, garages and amusement and recreation. Here the differences in occupational mix contributes to the variation in these turnover rates.

The lowest turnover rates in Anchorage are in the mining industry followed by transportation, communications and utilities, and finance-insurance and real estate industries. The lowest and most stable rates within the mining industry are in the oil and gas producing companies and are highest in the oil field services and drilling sectors. The major oil companies have large permanent staffs, including many professional management and technical personnel whose turnover rates tend to be lower than other occupational groups. The greater than average wages in the mining industry also contribute to the lower rates. Personnel working for the drilling and services companies are more susceptible to contract and seasonal layoffs than personnel of the oil producing companies.

The turnover rates among the transportation, communications and utilities industries are lowest in the pipeline, telephone and electric companies where the stable work force is reflected by the low hire and

Table I
Comparative Business Costs by Area

Except as noted, all amounts are in dollars.

	Anchorage	Fairbanks	Juneau	Seattle	Wash., D.C.	Virginia	Baltimore
Auto Rental Rates	45-50	50-55	48-50	47-50	56-58		
Hotel and Motel Room Rental Rates							
Winter	60-115	50-80	45-60	40-90	40-100		
Summer	70-125	60-80	50-70	40-90	40-100		
Office Rental Rates							
Per Square Foot	.90-2.15	.80-1.80	1.25-1.65	.30-1.00	9.00-20.00		
Heavy Equipment Rental Rates 1/							
Bulldozer	2000-3000	1150-2500	1150-2500	1400-2200	1900-2500		
Backhoe	3000-5000	1000-1500	1000-1500	2000-2500	1200-3500		
Wheel Loader	2000-3000 /	1500-2500	1500-2500	1500-2000	1500-3000		
Residential Marginal Electric Rates (¢/KWH)							
Winter	5.149	9.5	5.12	5.461		3.319	3.780
Summer	5.149	9.5	4.08	5.201		5.683	6.090
Commercial Marginal Electric Rates (¢/KWH)							
Winter	2.897	9.9(< 15,000) 7.58(> 15,000)	3.97	4.497(< 20,000) 3.485(> 20,000)		5.921(< 3,000) 3.741(> 3,000)	5.342(< 24,500) 3.047(> 24,500)
Summer	2.897	9.9(< 15,000) 7.58(> 15,000)	3.97	4.497(< 20,000) 3.485(> 20,000)		5.921(< 3,000) 3.895(> 3,000)	7.635(< 24,500) 3.047(> 24,500)
Office Machinery Purchase Price 2/							
Typewriter	900-1000	900-1000	900-1000	800-950	850-950		
Copy Machine	1600-2000	1600-2000	1600-2000	900-1600	1200-1800		
Calculator	100-200	100-200	100-200	100-175	140-180		
Commercial Telephone Rates (Per Line, Per Month)	23.85	24.90	28.09	35.84	18.55		

Water (Per 1000 Gal.)	1.72	2.25	13.00/1st 4000 1.50/add'l 1000	1.81	1.96
Sewer	6.00≤ 5 Empl. 25.35 6≤Empl.<25 146.75≥26 Emp.	3.03/ 1000 gal	21.00/Mo.	Included with Water	Included with Water

1/ Prices will vary depending on the size of equipment and whether an operator and gasoline are provided. Prices are based on the approximate equivalent of a Caterpillar D-6 bulldozer, a 225 Caterpillar backhoe, and a wheel loader with a three yard bucket.

2/ Prices are based on a) a standard electronic, desktop typewriter, b) a standard tabletop-copy machine with no special features, and c) standard 10-key calculator, 4 function, percent key, 4 key memory, a fluorescent display, and a tape printer.

Table II
Freight Shipping Costs 1/

Destination		Cost of Air Freight 2/		Cost of Barge 3/	Cost of Personal Goods by Barge 4/
From	To	Rate (¢/Pound)	Tax (In Dollars) 2/	Rate ($/100 Pounds)	Rate ($/100 Pounds)
Juneau, AK	Seattle, WA	16-22	12.50-17.50	9.00-13.00	12.00-13.00
Seattle, WA	Juneau, AK	25	19.00	9.00-13.00	15.50-16.00
Anchorage, AK	Seattle, WA	20-24	11.00	17.00-22.00	15.00-18.00
Seattle, WA	Anchorage, AK	30	16.00	17.00-22.00	15.00-18.00
Anchorage, AK	Washington, D.C.	45	31.50	—	—
Washington, D.C.	Anchorage, AK	48	34.50	—	—

1/ Freight prices are determinant on a multitude of factors and could vary widely.

2/ Based on 5,000 pounds of a representative wholesale good. Tax is a percentage and will vary dependent on cost, and distance shipped.

3/ Based on 5,000 pounds of heavy equipment.

4/ Based on 5,000 pounds of personal, household goods.

Table III
Personal Air Fares
One Person-Round Trip Coach 1/

From	To	Cost
Anchorage, AK	Washington, D.C.	$1292.34
Anchorage, AK	Seattle, WA	649.74
Juneau, AK	Seattle, WA	476.92

1/ As of end of February 1985.

Table IV
Wage Rates in Selected Occupations 1/

	Anchorage-Mat-Su 1/	Interior Region 1/	Southeast Region 2/	Seattle-Everett 3/	Washington, D.C. SMSA 4/
Drafters	7.00-16.00	8.00-12.50	6.92-12.00	10.20-12.15	8.75-9.38
Computer Programmers	8.66-13.33	11.00-16.83	11.54-13.00	9.12-10.98	9.95-13.65
Systems Analysts	12.88-15.87	15.00-25.00	17.31	12.45-15.50	12.00-15.80
Janitors and Maids	4.00-13.36	4.00-7.36	4.60-12.10	5.73-7.55	3.70-4.50
Carpenters	8.00-25.88	10.00-26.41	12.50-23.95	11.91-14.32	7.00-7.50
Electricians	13.00-24.15	24.77	10.00-21.67	11.93-14.94	8.00-9.00
Automobile Mechanics	10.00-20.00	9.37-20.00	8.50-22.11	12.50-14.94	11.90-14.08
Truck Drivers, Heavy or Tractor Trailer	7.50-22.91	11.63-22.91	10.44-20.96	12.43-14.39	10.00-13.44
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	5.00-11.75	5.75-22.00	5.00-16.06	6.12-8.38	6.37-6.88
Computer Operators	6.20-10.90	8.00-10.00	8.34-10.96	8.15-11.10	7.50-8.13
Data Entry Keyers	6.35 12.28	7.09-10.83	6.50-9.81	5.62-7.95	5.33-6.98
File Clerks	5.00-9.28	5.64-7.21	5.00-8.65	4.33-5.28	4.38-4.63
Receptionists	5.00-10.96	5.19-10.00	5.00-12.00	5.17-7.50	5.50-6.98
Secretaries	6.25-11.69	6.00-11.06	5.25-14.45	8.35-11.63	7.68-9.65
Switchboard Operators	5.00-9.22	5.38-9.11	5.77-8.65	5.83-7.95	5.50-7.00
Typists	5.48-16.60	6.50-9.50	5.48-13.24	5.70-9.38	5.70-7.75
Payroll-Timekeeping Clerks	9.75-10.50	8.00-.50	6.50-10.09	6.00-8.43	6.88-7.38

1/ Wage rates for Alaska are entry level wages while wage rates for Seattle-Everett and Washington, D.C. are average wage rates.

2/ Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Research and Analysis, *Wage Rates for Selected Occupations 1984.*

3/ Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Area Wage Survey 1984.*

4/ Source: Virginia Employment Commission, Virginia Occupational Information Coordinating Committee, *Virginia Occupational Demand, Supply and Wage Information.*

Table V
Comparative Living Costs by Area

	Anchorage	Fairbanks	Juneau	Seattle	Wash., D.C.
Cost of food for a week (2 adults; 1 male child 13, 1 female child 8) 2/	$84.96	$90.26	$92.59	$83.10	$77.30
Housing					
Home purchase price 3/ (3 br., 2 ba., fr, 2000 sq. ft.)	147,000	159,000	155,000	110,000	135,000
Rental of similar unit	1,200	1,200	1,200	550-750	675-1200
2 Bedroom Apt. rental 4/	600-800	600-800	650-800	400-600	450-750
$110,000 Homeowner Insurance Premium 5/					
Low Risk	350-570	375-550	300-475	230-325 13/	475-500
High Risk	800-1150	750-1250	625-1075	450-600 13/	•
55 gal. htg. oil (diesel #2 or equivalent) 6/	65-75	65-75	65-75	65-75	65-75
Utilities 7/					
Water & Sewer (1000 cu. ft.)	28.30	39.60	38.00	14.50	15.70
Residential rate 1000kw	60.47	104.91	117.05	28-58	45-60
Garbage collection	10-12	10.00	19.18	11.95	N/A 1/
Telephone res. private line	9-15	11-18	13-25	13.59	6.50-14.00
Transportation					
Auto insurance premium (1983 Chevy Cavalier or equivalent) 5/	500-1075	475-1100	400-650	325-500	•
Gasoline (1 gallon, regular) 8/	1.09	1.37	1.44	•	•
Daycare 9/					
1 month/1 preschool toddler	353	358	375	197-323	197-323
Property Tax Millage Rates 1984 10/					
City Proper	9.91	8.8	8.92	10.63	12.20-21.30
Rate of surrounding service areas	4.89-10.10	7.0-17.0	8.54-10.68	9.00-13.00	•
Local Sales Tax	0%	0%	4%	6.5%	6.0%
1981 Urban Family Budget Consumption adjusted by Local CPI-U					
Higher	34091	•	•	29472	29819
Intermediate	25868	•	•	21784	21798
Low	19689	•	•	15368	14684

Medical Costs 11/					
Hospital Semi-Private Room Rate	257.63	276.50	•	216.20	280.41
Average Cost to Hospital per Day 1981 (by state)	453.00	453.00	453.00	315.00	430.60
Average Cost to Hospital per Stay 1981 (by state)	2627.40	2627.40	2627.40	1795.50	3703.20
Dental Charges 12/ (by state)					
Initial Oral Exam	27	27	27	•	12
Prophylaxis-Adult	50	50	50	•	21
Permanent Amalgem Filling-Adult	67	67	67	•	32
Composite Resin Filling Two Surfaces	74	74	74	•	34
Porcelain Crown with Gold	431	431	431	•	336

• Not available or not applicable

Footnotes for Table V

1/ Paid Via Homeowner Taxes

2/ Cost of food at home for a week on a low cost food plan for 2 adults aged 20-50; 1 male child age 13, 1 female child age 8. Alaskan communities are from University of Alaska Cooperative Extension Service "Cost of Food at Home for a Week" December 1984. Seattle and Washington, D.C. are Northwest and Southern U.S. regional estimates from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for January 1985.

3/ Coldwell Banker Nationwide Relocation Service, January 1984.

4/ From classified ads of community's newspaper.

5/ From Alaska Department of Commerce and Economic Development, Division of Insurance. Washington: Insurance Services Office, 1984; Washington, D.C.-District of Columbia Insurance Division.

6/ Alaska observations: Energy Assistance Program, Department of Health and Social Services.

7/ Phone survey of respective utility for some.

8/ Alaska observations from "Cost of Food at Home for a Week"

9/ Alaska observations, child care coordinater, Alaska Department of Community and Regional Affairs, Community Development and Child Care Programs. National Observation: Child Care Action News, January-February 1985.

(Footnotes continued next page)

Footnotes for Table V

10/ Phone survey of revenue offices for the locale.

11/ Source Book of Health Insurance 1982-1983. Health Insurance Association of America.

12/ Washington, D.C. observations are for 1982 from Source Book of Health Insurance. Alaska Data is for 1984 from Health Insurance Association of America, unpublished data.

Table VI
Income Data by Area

	Anchorage	Fairbanks	Juneau	Seattle	Wash., D.C.
Estimated 1983 Median Income of Four Person Families (by state) 1/	38,238	38,238	38,238	30,185	28,701
1983 Per Capita Personal Income (by state) 2/	17,194	17,194	17,194	12,177	15,744
1982 Per Capita Income by County and Census Division 1/	18,429	18,381	19,889	13,239	15,064

1/ U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.
2/ U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Table VII
The Cost of a "Big Mac" Meal by Location
Alaska, Seattle and Washington D.C.

	Anchorage	Eagle River	Fairbanks	Juneau	Kodiak	Mat-Su Valley	Soldotna	Seattle	Wash., D.C.
Big Mac	$1.55	$1.55	$1.65	$1.75	$1.75	$1.55	$1.75	$1.30-$1.39	$1.43-$1.47
Large Fries	.80	.80	.85	.90	.90	.80	.85	.65-.75	.80-.85
Medium Drink	.75	.75	.70	.70	.75	.75	.70	.50-.60	.50-.56
Total Meal	$3.10	$3.10	$3.20	$3.35	$3.40	$3.10	$3.30	$2.49-$2.74 1/	$2.73-$2.88 1/

1/ The total cost is per location and may not equal the sum of the cost for the high and low cost per item.

LABOR FORCE BY REGION AND CENSUS AREA

	Labor Force			Unemployment			Rate			Employment		
	P/ 2/85	R/ 1/85	2/84	P/ 2/85	R/ 1/85	2/84	P/ 2/85	R/ 1/85	2/84	P/ 2/85	R/ 1/85	2/84
Alaska Statewide	246182	240434	230987	26593	26864	28456	10.8	11.2	12.3	219589	213570	202531
Anchorage-Matsu Region	134422	132421	123954	12253	12295	11538	9.1	9.3	9.3	122169	120126	112416
Anchorage Borough	119731	117916	110642	9589	9616	9293	8.0	8.2	8.4	110142	108300	101349
Mat-Su Borough	14691	14505	13312	2664	2679	2245	18.1	18.5	16.9	12027	11826	11067
Gulf Coast Region	24717	23754	23458	3568	3371	4241	14.4	14.2	18.1	21149	20383	19217
Kenai Peninsula Borough	15442	14821	14566	2536	2382	2839	16.4	16.1	19.5	12906	12439	11727
Kodiak Island Borough	5509	5319	5237	513	504	698	9.3	9.5	13.3	4996	4815	4539
Valdez-Cordova	3766	3614	3655	519	485	704	13.8	13.4	19.3	3247	3129	2951
Interior Region	36631	35420	34589	5238	5361	5663	14.3	15.1	16.4	31393	30059	28926
Fairbanks North Star Borough	29707	28787	27924	4344	4502	4554	14.6	15.6	16.3	25363	24285	23370
Southeast Fairbanks	2925	2828	2764	371	382	410	12.7	13.5	14.8	2554	2446	2354
Yukon-Koyukuk	3999	3805	3901	523	477	699	13.1	12.5	17.9	3476	3328	3202
Northern Region	8097	7730	8267	627	682	1135	7.7	8.8	13.7	7470	7048	7132
Kobuk	2542	2429	2609	198	217	371	7.8	8.9	14.2	2344	2212	2238
Nome	3447	3296	3487	320	346	502	9.3	10.5	14.4	3127	2950	2985
North Slope Borough	2108	2005	2171	109	119	262	5.2	5.9	12.1	1999	1886	1909
Southeast Region	31599	31010	30803	4096	4314	4743	13.0	13.9	15.4	27503	26696	26060
Haines Borough	1043	1060	1001	177	219	180	17.0	20.7	18.0	866	841	821
Juneau Borough	11851	11577	11364	1205	1244	1277	10.2	10.7	11.2	10646	10333	10087
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	6770	6660	6683	937	998	1156	13.8	15.0	17.3	5833	5662	5527
Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan	2354	2357	2306	372	433	428	15.8	18.4	18.6	1982	1924	1878
Sitka Borough	3897	3829	3787	385	420	459	9.9	11.0	12.1	3512	3409	3328
Skagway-Yakutat-Angoon	2090	2033	1973	447	438	416	21.4	21.5	21.1	1643	1595	1557
Wrangell-Petersburg	3594	3494	3689	573	562	827	15.9	16.1	22.4	3021	2932	2862
Southwest Region	10716	10099	9916	811	841	1136	7.6	8.3	11.5	9905	9258	8780
Aleutian Islands	2546	2398	2324	64	78	124	2.5	3.3	5.3	2482	2320	2200
Bethel	4198	3935	3895	371	358	503	8.8	9.1	12.9	3827	3577	3392
Bristol Bay Borough	433	419	394	44	55	49	10.2	13.1	12.4	389	364	345
Dillingham	1808	1726	1664	166	191	209	9.2	11.1	12.6	1642	1535	1455
Wade Hampton	1731	1621	1639	166	159	251	9.6	9.8	15.3	1565	1462	1388

P/=Preliminary 1984 Benchmark

R/=Revised

Federal guidelines require the use of unrounded labor data, adjusted to be consistent with the Current Population Survey (CPS) in formulas used to allocate federal funds. Comparisons between different time periods are not as meaningful as other time series published by the Alaska Department of Labor; because Alaska's CPS sample size is inadequate to accurately indicate monthly changes in level. The sampling errors are random in nature; meaning that the unemployment rates, in any given month, are as likely to be high as frequently as they are low. The official definitions of unemployment, currently in place, exclude anyone who has made no attempt to find work in the four week period up to and including the week that includes the twelfth of each month. Most economists feel that Alaska's bush localities have proportionately more of these discouraged workers.

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
BY PLACE OF WORK
ANCHORAGE

			CHANGES FROM:		
	P/ 2/85	R/ 1/85	2/84	1/85	2/84
Nonag. Wage & Salary	111350	111200	105250	150	6100
Mining	4150	4150	3650	0	500
Construction	7600	7850	7900	-250	-300
Manufacturing	2300	2150	2100	150	200
Food & Kindred Prod.	350	250	300	100	50
Other Mfg.	1950	1900	1800	50	150
Trans. Comm. & Utilities	8650	8700	8550	-50	100
Trucking & Whseing.	1150	1200	1050	-50	100
Water Transportation	350	350	250	0	100
Air Transportation	3350	3300	3500	50	-150
Other Trans. Comm. & Utilities	3800	3850	3750	-50	50
Trade	27350	27700	25250	-350	2100
Wholesale	6500	6550	6200	-50	300
Retail	20850	21150	19050	-300	1800
Gen. Merchandise	1550	1700	1550	-150	0
Food Stores	3100	3100	2550	0	550
Eating & Drinking Places	8300	8200	7400	100	900
Other Retail Trade	7900	8150	7550	-250	350
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	8650	8650	8100	0	550
Services & Misc.	26300	26250	24550	50	1750
Government	26350	25750	25150	600	1200
Federal	10100	10050	9900	50	200
State	6950	6500	6650	450	300
Local	9300	9200	8600	100	700

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
BY PLACE OF WORK
ANCHORAGE/MAT-SU

			CHANGES FROM:		
	P/ 2/85	R/ 1/85	2/84	1/85	2/84
Nonag. Wage & Salary	118200	118100	110700	100	7500
Mining	4150	4150	3650	0	500
Construction	8200	8500	8550	-300	-350
Manufacturing	2350	2300	2200	50	150
Trans. Comm. & Utilities	9300	9300	9100	0	200
Trade	29050	29400	26550	-350	2500
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	9250	9250	8150	0	1100
Services & Misc.	27600	27550	25450	50	2150
Government	28300	27650	27050	650	1250

separation rates which range from 1% to 12% during the year. The trucking, warehouse and transportation services businesses, because of the nature of their activities, are influenced more by seasonal fluctuations and are in a highly competitive market environment.

The banks and credit unions have turnover rates which average 3 percentage points below the industry average and 30 percentage points below overall turnover rates. This rate obscures the variations between occupations. Some occupations have very high turnover such as tellers while the professional occupations are more stable. The real estate sector has above average turnover rates and is more sensitive to seasonal fluctuations than other industries in the financial sector.

A direct comparison between Anchorage and the U.S. turnover ratios is not possible, but past studies and statistics show that Alaska's turnover rates are generally greater than the lower 48 turnover rates. This is due to the younger work force, the extreme flux of workers into and out of Alaska, and Alaska's wide swings in seasonal economic activities. A comparison between Anchorage and Alaska's labor turnover rates shows a difference in seasonal fluctuations. Alaska's hire and termination rates fluctuate more drastically than the Anchorage rates.

FAIRBANKS/INTERIOR

By Neal Fried

Employment in the Doyon Region

The Department of Labor now has the capacity to produce a variety of employment statistics for the Doyon region. The figures discussed below are Department of Labor figures and do not represent Doyon Limited Regional Corporation's activity. The boundaries used are identical with the corporation's boundaries, with one exception, a slight overlap on the southeast border. This should not affect the figures because little or no employment activity exists in this area.

Two sets of employment numbers will be discussed. One set includes all communities in the Doyon region including the Fairbanks North Star Borough and the other excludes the Fairbanks North Star Borough. This has been done to shed additional light on the rural areas of the Doyon region. The rural area's experience has been very different from the urban area's experience and this distinction would be lost if Fairbanks were included. The Fairbanks North Star Borough represents 87% of the employment in the region, and would mask the activity taking place elsewhere in the region.

Within the Doyon region's boundaries are 50 different communities. The largest community is Fairbanks North Star Borough with a population of 69,633 (1984) quarters of the communities in the region have populations of less than 500. The larger communities in the region include Fort Yukon, Delta, Fairbanks, Galena, Nenana, and Anderson. The region does not represent one distinct economic unit and therefore all communities within the region are not exposed to identical economic stimuli. Their economic activity may rely on tourism and other roadside activity, mining, shipping, subsistence, or a combination thereof. A majority are heavily dependent on government for wage and salary employment.

The rural region's share of employment growth over the past 4 years has lagged behind that of Fairbanks' and the State's. Wage and salary employment in the rural region grew by 18% compared to 31% in Fairbanks and 32% statewide. With a region made up of small widely dispersed communities, it is not unexpected that their growth has been slower than the more urban areas of the state. Most of the growth which has taken place during this period can find its origins in increased state expenditures and to a lesser extent tourism.

The rural region has benefitted from increased state expenditures in the form of permanent fund checks, increased local and state government employment, grants, loan programs, and capital projects. One big difference between rural and urban areas occurs when these funds are

spent. When the rural dollars are spent in the rural area, these dollars flow quickly out of the communities for a variety of goods and services. The larger urban areas such as Fairbanks can provide many of these goods, services, and labor locally which in turn creates additional employment. The urban area's economy also receives the additional benefits from expenditures of the rural dollars. This is one explanation why employment in Fairbanks has grown more rapidly than the rest of the Interior.

Government remains the overwhelming employment mainstay in the rural region. More than half (56%) of the wage and salary work force is employed by one of the three levels of government (see table below). Local government is responsible for 31% of total employment making it the single largest employer. The lion's share of these employees are local school district employees. The federal government's presence is also significant. A major portion of federal government can be found on the military installations at Galena, Anderson and Delta. Denali National Park provides an additional concentration of federal employment. All levels of government in the rural region have grown during the past four years. Local government has led the way, up 31% over the past four years. This reliance on government is an important factor when assessing the area employment prospect in the light of federal budget deficits and falling state oil revenues.

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
BY PLACE OF WORK
FAIRBANKS

	P/	R/	CHANGES FROM:		
	2/85	1/85	2/84	1/85	2/84
Nonag. Wage & Salary	26900	26150	25300	750	1600
Mining	200	200	100	0	100
Construction	2250	1900	2050	350	200
Manufacturing	450	450	450	0	0
Trans. Comm. & Utilities	2800	2650	2600	150	200
Trucking & Whseing.	500	450	350	50	150
Air Transportation	800	700	700	100	100
Other Trans. Comm. & Utilities	1500	1500	1550	0	-50
Trade	5500	5550	5100	-50	400
Wholesale	1050	1050	950	0	100
Retail	4450	4500	4150	-50	300
Gen. Mer. & Apparel	500	550	500	-50	0
Food Stores	750	750	700	0	50
Other Retail Trade	3200	3200	2950	0	250
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	900	900	900	0	0
Services & Misc.	5150	5200	4950	-50	200
Government	9650	9300	9150	350	500
Federal	2700	2700	2550	0	150
State	4150	3850	3900	300	250
Local	2800	2750	2700	50	100

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
BY PLACE OF WORK
INTERIOR

	P/	R/	CHANGES FROM:		
	2/85	1/85	2/84	1/85	2/84
Nonag. Wage & Salary	30950	30000	29050	950	1900
Mining	300	300	200	0	100
Construction	2350	2050	2100	300	250
Manufacturing	500	450	450	50	50
Trans. Comm. & Utilities	3400	3300	3250	100	150
Trade	5950	5950	5500	0	450
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	1000	950	950	50	50
Services & Misc.	5450	5400	5150	50	300
Government	12000	11600	11450	400	550

The region's secondary sector (trade, services and finance, insurance and real estate) has grown by 23% over the past four years. Trade, in particular, has made gains, climbing by 45%. However, this sector in the rural region still remains small and underdeveloped. It represents approximately 10% of the employment, in the rural areas compared to 20% for the entire region. The size of the rural economies and their scattered nature has precluded any major expansion of this sector's share of the economy.

The entire region's unemployment picture has not changed a great deal in spite of growth in employment. The unemployment figures remained in the double digit range during the entire course of the year. In 1984 the rate for the region was 13.3%, with a high of 16.9% in January and a low of 10% in September. These figures provide only a partial picture of the unemployment situation. In many of the rural areas of the region where employment is extremely scarce, much of the working age population may not be seeking work because they know that none is available. To be considered unemployed a person must be actively seeking work. Therefore, the full unemployment picture is not captured in these figures.

GULF COAST

By Neal Fried

Copper River Employment Picture

The Copper River area includes 12 communities varying in size from 30 to 500. The communities included in the Copper River area are: Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center, Gakona, Glennallen, Gulkana, Lower Tonsina, Mentasta Lake, Paxson, Slana, Tazlina and Tonsina. Eight of the communities have populations of less than 100. The total population of the area when last counted (1980) was 2,721. Most of these communities are strung out along the Richardson and Edgerton Highways and the Tok Cut-Off.

There has always been a dearth of economic indicators for this area. None of the communities in the Copper River area are incorporated, therefore no population estimates are produced for these communities during non-census years. In the past, data produced once every 10 years was largely all that existed for the area. The Department of Labor now has the capability to produce wage and salary employment numbers for the Copper River area in monthly, quarterly and annual formats. This information will provide insight into the workings of the area's economy. These numbers will also make it possible to track the area's economy over time. It is important to remember these statistics do not include all forms of employment. Self-employment is not included and neither is subsistence activity.

The most notable feature of the figures in the table is the lack of growth in employment. As state wage and salary employment has increased by 32% over the past four years, employment in the Copper River labor market area has remained relatively flat. There has been no new major economic activity in the area since the construction of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline and the area apparently has not benefitted from the state largess to the degree other communities have. The small, dispersed population base of Copper River also makes it more difficult for the area to capture dollars spent in these communities.

Most of the area's industries have been relatively stable over the past four years. Trade is the only industry which has moved ahead with any vigor. This may be a result of increased highway traffic and growth in population. The number of new residents and tourists entering the State via the highway has climbed dramatically since 1980. A large share of the employment in the area is strictly seasonal. Over the course of a year, the highest quarter for employment can be as much as 23% above that of the lowest quarter. This comes as a result of the area's heavy dependence on seasonal activity such as construction, highway repair, tourism, highway traffic, and fishing. The seasonality of the area's economy, along with the

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
BY PLACE OF WORK
GULF COAST

	P/	R/	CHANGES FROM:		
	2/85	1/85	2/84	1/85	2/84
Nonag. Wage & Salary	18250	17850	16800	400	1450
Mining	800	750	650	50	150
Construction	1300	1300	1200	0	100
Manufacturing	1900	1850	1600	50	300
Food & Kindred Prod.	1250	1200	1000	50	250
All Other Mfg.	650	650	600	0	50
Trans. Comm. & Utilities	2100	2100	2100	0	0
Trade	3100	3050	2800	50	300
Wholesale	400	400	350	0	50
Retail	2700	2650	2450	50	250
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	650	600	600	50	50
Services & Misc.	3000	2900	2650	100	350
Government	5400	5300	5200	100	200
Federal	500	500	500	0	0
State	1550	1450	1500	100	50
Local	3350	3350	3200	0	150

snail-paced growth in new job opportunities has meant the job market in the area is highly competitive. All employment opportunities are extremely scarce. This problem plagues much of rural Alaska and the Copper Center area is no exception.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA

By John Boucher

Southeast Alaska's nonagricultural wage and salary employment increased in February by 300 jobs, an increase of slightly more than 1% during the month. This was the first month to month increase in total Southeast employment since October, a sign that the economy has begun its mid-winter turnaround.

Several factors contributed to the growth in employment. First of all construction was down approximately 100 jobs from January as compared to dropping an average of about 300 jobs a month during the past four months. Other than construction the only sector of the economy which lost jobs during the month was retail trade, as the last of the peak holiday season employees were let go.

On the up side, manufacturing employment in the region appears to have rebounded. Increased logging activity and also a slight surge in seafood processing employment were bright spots in the region. Government employment, particularly the state and local sectors were also up during the month as school districts and University of Alaska employees who had the holidays off were called back to work.

Southeast Unemployment

After being below 1983 rates for much of the first half of the year, the unemployment rate in Southeast Alaska took a turn for the worse and ended 1984 with an annual average three tenths of a percentage point higher than the 1983 annual average. This makes the fourth year in a row that Southeast Alaska unemployment has worsened. One bright spot to consider is that the unemployment increase this year was the smallest since 1980. The Ketchikan Gateway Borough had the years sharpest increase in unemployment, climbing 3.1 percentage points from 1983's annual average. The Skagway-Yakutat-Angoon census area had the best improvement over the year dropping 5.2 percentage points in 1984. The increase in Ketchikan is attributable to the continuing problems of the lumber and paper products sector while the drop in Skagway-Yakutat-Angoon was caused by relocation of workers to greener pastures which resulted in a smaller total labor force.

Table I
Labor Turnover Rates 1/
Anchorage
1983-1984

	1Q to 2Q 1983		2Q to 3Q 1983		3Q to 4Q 1983		4Q 1983 to 1Q 1984		1983 Average	
	(All values expressed in percentages)									
	Hire	Term.	Hire	Term.	Hire	Term.	Hire	Term.	Hire	Term.
Total	49	32	49	39	37	51	35	48	43	42
Mining	17	24	18	22	12	18	27	16	19	20
Construction	144	64	106	63	62	97	64	136	94	90
Manufacturing	77	36	67	45	34	111	37	46	61	60
Transportation	25	14	19	15	18	26	14	25	19	20
Wholesale Trade	28	19	29	24	23	30	25	27	26	25
Retail Trade	62	45	68	54	51	64	47	66	57	57
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	36	23	27	22	28	31	21	21	28	24
Services	35	27	40	36	33	42	32	33	35	35

1 Some caution should be used in interpreting crude turnover rates. For example a separation rate of 100% could indicate the following:

1) The entire labor force had turned over during the period.
2) Half the labor force had turned over twice, the other half remaining stable.
3) A quarter had turned over four times and so on.

The crude separation rates cannot indicate which of these different situations exist. For example, if every one in the firms labor force leaves during a year there will be few experienced employees in the firm, on the other hand, if the turnover is concentrated in one quarter of the positions 75% of the firm's employees will be experienced.

Rural Doyon Region
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment 1/
1980-1984

	Annual Average				Nine Month Average 1/	
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1983	1984
Nonag. Wage & Salary	3518	3610	3928	4017	4032	4162
Mining	140	147	143	136	146	107
Construction	66	51	66	93	82	120
Manufacturing	29	34	22	22	22	25
Trans., Comm. & Utilities	806	833	842	783	804	745
Trade	297	333	397	417	422	431
Wholesale	20	28	38	38	39	41
Retail	277	305	359	379	383	390
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	52	57	54	63	61	65
Services and Misc.	310	340	288	305	319	329
Government	1819	1815	2116	2199	2172	2340
Federal	641	620	711	696	705	728
State	266	268	289	307	302	339
Local	912	927	1116	1196	1165	1273

1/ Subtotals may not add due to rounding.

Doyon Region
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment 2/
1980-1984

	Annual Average				Nine Month Average 2/	
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1983	1984
Nonag. Wage & Salary	24303	26311	28582	29908	29846	31707
Mining	187	422	402	400	464	275
Construction	1646	1884	2252	2655	2650	3098
Manufacturing	608	500	486	558	552	556
Trans., Comm. & Utilities	3422	3618	3745	3641	3701	3643
Trade	4188	4802	5235	5645	5637	6229
Wholesale	701	823	902	948	927	1070
Retail	3487	3979	4333	4697	4710	5159
Finance-Ins. & Real Estate	726	817	925	969	967	1003
Services and Misc.	4328	4760	5170	5247	5234	5578
Government	9198	9506	10367	10794	10641	11325
Federal	2945	2974	3181	3265	3286	3461
State	3439	3619	3851	4060	4021	4058
Local	2814	2913	3335	3469	3334	3806

2/ Subtotals may not add due to rounding.

Copper Center Region
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
1980-1984

	Annual Average				Nine Month Average	
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1983	1984
Nonag. Wage & Salary	669	699	667	648	662	701
Mining	•	•	•	•	•	•
Construction	59	73	60	68	71	47
Trans., Comm. & Utilities	37	41	50	56	59	50
Trade	74	88	95	91	93	119
Wholesale	22	29	30	31	31	35
Retail	52	59	65	60	62	84
Finance.-Ins. & Real Estate	•	•	•	•	•	•
Services and Misc.	213	184	166	156	165	192
Government	233	247	250	238	238	252
Federal	15	12	10	14	14	32
State	120	129	124	120	122	127
Local	98	106	116	104	102	93

• Nondisclosable.

Table I
Annual Average Unemployment Rates
by 1980 Census Areas

Census Area	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
Southeast Region	9.0%	10.7%	11.4%	12.3%	12.6%
Haines Borough	13.9%	13.1%	14.3%	16.2%	13.3%
Juneau Borough	7.2%	7.4%	8.3%	9.3%	9.9%
Ketchikan Borough	9.1%	12.2%	12.3%	12.0%	15.1%
Prince of Wales/Outer Ketchikan	12.1%	16.4%	16.7%	18.3%	15.8%
Sitka Borough	7.6%	9.1%	12.2%	10.8%	10.0%
Skagway-Yakutat-Angoon	12.5%	14.0%	13.4%	20.2%	15.0%
Wrangell-Petersburg	11.0%	13.5%	13.4%	14.8%	16.1%

See footnote center insert.

Table II
1984 Unemployment Rates
High and Low by 1980 Census Area

	High (Month)	Low (Month)
Southeast Region	16.8% (Jan.)	9.4% (Aug.)
Haines Borough	20.5% (Jan.)	7.3% (Aug.)
Juneau Borough	12.3% (Jan.)	8.2% (May)
Ketchikan Borough	18.1% (Jan.)	12.4% (June)
Prince of Wales/Outer Ketchikan	20.9% (Jan.)	9.9% (Aug.)
Sitka Borough	14.4% (Jan.)	7.3% (Aug.)
Skagway-Yakutat-Angoon	22.0% (Jan.)	6.7% (Sept.)
Wrangell-Petersburg	24.5% (Jan.)	7.7% (Aug.)

See footnote center insert.

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
BY PLACE OF WORK
SOUTHEAST ALASKA

	P/ 2/85	R/ 1/85	2/84	CHANGES FROM: 1/85	2/84
Nonag. Wage & Salary	27150	26850	26100	300	1050
Construction	1050	1150	1350	-100	-300
Manufacturing	2050	1850	2000	200	50
Food & Kindred Prod.	400	350	350	50	50
Lumber & Paper Prod.	1400	1250	1450	150	-50
All Other Mfg.	250	250	200	0	50
Trans. Comm. & Utilities	1850	1800	1800	50	50
Trade	4500	4650	4050	-150	450
Wholesale	350	350	350	0	0
Retail	4150	4300	3700	-150	450
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	1100	1100	950	0	150
Mining, Services & Misc.	4450	4450	4300	0	150
Government	12150	11850	11650	300	500
Federal	1900	1900	1950	0	-50
State	5600	5500	5400	100	200
Local	4650	4450	4300	200	350

HOURS AND EARNINGS

By Kathleen Thomas

The effects of spring are beginning to appear in the hours and earnings data as average weekly hours in manufacturing rose 3% in February. The increase in average weekly hours generally means that businesses are gearing up for the active summer season. In February both food and kindred products and lumber and paper products average weekly hours increased over January average weekly hours. Construction, which has had average weekly hours lagging past periods, increased 4% from January to February. Wholesale trade, supplier to the manufacturing industries, followed the upward trend with a 7% increase in average weekly hours. However, retail trade still appears to be in the post holiday and pre-spring doldrums. Average weekly hours in retail trade remained level and average hourly earnings dropped 2% from January. On the whole, movement in hours and earnings is trending upward as the summer approaches. How high the level of activity will reach is difficult to gauge at this time but employment forecasts point to moderation with an activity level lower than for previous years.

ALASKA
HOURS AND EARNINGS
FOR
SELECTED INDUSTRIES 1/ 2/

	Average Hourly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Weekly Earnings		
	p/ 2/85	r/ 1/85	2/84	p/ 2/85	r/ 1/85	2/84	p/ 2/85	r/ 1/85	2/84
Mining	$23.42	$23.22	$22.41	53.0	52.8	49.5	$1241.26	$1226.02	$1109.30
Contract Construction	24.35	23.95	23.99	43.1	41.3	41.2	1049.49	989.14	988.39
Manufacturing	13.98	14.52	14.58	34.5	33.5	35.3	482.31	486.42	514.67
Food & Kindred Products	10.29	10.32	8.76	29.9	28.0	26.7	307.67	288.96	233.89
Lumber & Paper Products	16.42	16.80	17.08	34.5	31.9	40.6	566.49	535.92	693.45
Trans. Comm. & Utilities	15.07	14.95	15.27	34.8	35.1	38.8	524.44	524.75	592.48
Trade	10.75	10.81	10.19	34.6	34.1	33.9	371.95	368.62	345.44
Wholesale	12.01	12.69	11.93	39.4	37.0	37.7	473.19	469.53	449.76
Retail	10.17	10.05	9.39	32.8	33.0	32.4	333.58	331.65	304.24
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	—	—	—	—	—	—	412.78	403.49	369.28

1/ Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

2/ Excludes eating and drinking establishments

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS SERIES: Averages are based on data for full and part time production workers (manufacturing) and nonsupervisory workers (nonmanufacturing) and are for gross earnings and hours paid, including overtime pay and hours.